

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated October 19, 2004. Claims 1-15 were pending. By this Amendment, new dependent claim 16 has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-16 are now pending, with claims 1, 6-8 and 12 being in independent form.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-12, 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,656,318 to Noyes in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,910,978 to Maytal et al. Claims 2, 9 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as purportedly unpatentable over Noyes in view of Maytal and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,445,733 to Zuranski et al.

Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 6-8 and 12 are patentable over the cited art, for at least the following reasons.

This application relates to facsimile apparatuses and other communication terminals which are connected to an analog communication network and provided with a power management feature. Such communication terminals are provided with means for electrical isolation between internal circuitry and the network, in order to guard against damage to the internal circuitry caused by assorted factors. However, the provision of the electrical isolation circuitry may introduce power consumption concerns. Although some conventional terminals include power saving features, such features often do not optimize the power savings.

The present application describes improved power saving features which are integrally provided along with electrical isolation features. Network control and monitor signals are electrically isolated from modulated digital signals, and in a power-saving state, operation of a modulation and demodulation processing section of a digital signal processing ("DSP") circuit is

suspended, while a line interface circuit and a network control signal processing section of the DSP circuit remain in operation and powered. Thus, the terminal in the power-saving state can accurately detect the arrival of an incoming call and quickly return to the normal operating state. For example, independent claim 1 is directed to such a communication terminal apparatus.

Noyes, as understood by Applicants, is directed to a modem apparatus which is connected to a host computer. The modem apparatus of Noyes is configured to have a conventional modem device structure.

While the modem apparatus of Noyes has some conventional power saving features, Noyes, as acknowledged in the Office Action, does not disclose or suggest the improved power saving features of the claimed invention wherein a line interface circuit and a network control signal processing section of a digital signal processing circuit remain in operation and powered while operation of a modulation and demodulation processing section of the digital signal processing circuit is suspended in a power-saving state.

Maytal was cited in the Office Action as disclosing a digital signal processing unit which performs modulation/demodulation and incoming call detection.

However, Maytal does not teach or suggest any particular saving features associated with the DSP unit. Moreover, Maytal (like Noyes) does not disclose or suggest a communication terminal apparatus wherein a line interface circuit and a network control signal processing section of a digital signal processing circuit remain in operation and powered while operation of a modulation and demodulation processing section of the digital signal processing circuit is suspended in a power-saving state, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 1.

Thus, if Noyes and Maytal are combined, the DSP unit disclosed by Maytal would merely replace the modulator/demodulator and ring detector (amongst other elements) of Noyes, and the

DSP unit of the modified modem would be powered down in a power saving state in its entirety, as taught by Noyes.

In contrast, according to the claimed invention, a portion of the DSP circuit (including the network control signal processing section) remains powered and in operation so as to obtain signal detection accuracy.

Zuranski, as understood by Applicants, relates to a digital subscriber line communication system. Zuranski was cited in the Office Action as purported disclosing that a modem can be placed into a low power state by reducing or halting clock signals within the modem.

Applicants do not find disclosure or suggestion in the cited art, however, of electrically isolating network control and monitor signals and modulated digital signals, and in a power-saving state carrying out the operation of the line interface circuit and the network control signal processing section of the digital signal processing circuit and suspending the operation of the modulation and demodulation processing section of the digital signal processing circuit, as provided by the claimed invention of claim 1.

Independent claims 6-8 and 12 are believed to be patentable over the cited art for similar reasons.

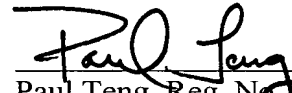
Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 6-8 and 12, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited art.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Teng", is written over a horizontal line.

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